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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR/Iran

SUBJECT Soviet Activity in the Caucasus

PLACE ACQUIRED

DATE ACQUIRED

DATE (OF INFO.)

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1. Inspectors have been arriving in Tbilisi (Tiflis) with a view to a new Communist Party purge. They have been collecting all information available in the vicinity, as a preliminary move.

2. The local leaders are accused of having neglected their duties and having been slack in their work. Arrests already made include: Serj Mizenko, Serif Tajariev, Bekria Goroditsa, Vasi Rabilevski, and Etem Halidov (or Nafidov). All these people came from the vicinity of Kutais.

3. There is also a suppression of Moslems who are accused of ideas contrary to those of the regime. A decree (No. 353) has directed the closing of 187 mosques. At the same time the following Moslem chiefs have been arrested: Molla Mekizade Tevni, Rocco Ocumbok, Musa Goeurgun, Hilmi Nemridov, Ilyas Abalak Bek (this name is known to have been mutilated in transmission but cannot at present be corrected), Murmus Onartug, and Huseyin Akayev.

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